

EastWaterWayComments

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, August 07, 2023 12:23 PM
To: EastWaterWayComments
Subject: Comment on the East Waterway Proposed Plan

Dear Ms. Laura Knudsen,

It is apparent to all of us who live near the Duwamish River that a major cleanup is overdue.

I am aware that some cleanup has been performed, but it not enough. This toxic Superfund site has been detrimental to our salmon, other marine wildlife and, most importantly, to the local communities that live near its banks. Choosing this site for atomic bomb component transportation was a classic example of environmental racism that is so prevalent in our country. The people living near the Duwamish River were primarily tribal and Hispanic groups and their river habitat was destroyed without a thought. What was once a beautiful, productive river was turned into a dangerous, toxic, sludgy mess. This would never have been allowed in a white middle-class or upscale neighborhood and if it had, the cleanup would have begun and finished long before now. I support the Preferred Alternative and believe the East Waterway Proposed Plan must be strengthened by requiring the removal of polluted mud around the Spokane Street and West Seattle bridges. This area will never recover if you don't completely remove this toxic mud. Shellfish and other marine life will not recover without this removal. Local people still use this area for fishing, and unless the cleanup is robust and thorough, it will not be safe to consume most of what comes out of the Duwamish. Thank you for allowing my comments to be heard.

Regards,

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Seattle, WA 98126